



Lesson 113

From Abijam to Asa

Story Elements

- **Text:** 1 Ki. 14:31-16:28; 2 Ch. 14:1-6:14
- **Setting:** circa 913 - 873 B.C.
- **Main Characters:** God, Abijam, and Asa
- **Plot:** Abijam leads Judah into sin, but his son Asa ushers in a period of revival and peace.
- **Key word(s):** “ _____ ”
- **Climax:** 2 Chr. 14:11 *And Asa cried*

unto the LORD his God, and said, LORD, it is nothing with thee to help, whether with many, or with them that have no power: help us, O LORD our God; for we rest on thee, and in thy name we go against this multitude. O LORD, thou art our God; let not man prevail against thee.

Abijam

1. (1 Ki. 14:31-8) Abijam was the son of Rehoboam, making him David's great-grandson. He became king following Rehoboam's death during the 18th year of Jeroboam's reign in the northern kingdom.
 - (a) Abijam (also called _____) was a wicked man, and his reign was cut short to a very brief three years.
 - (b) (2 Ch. 13:1-22) In spite of his wickedness, Abijah did at one time display a righteous fortitude worthy of admiration. Before a battle against Jeroboam, Abijah rebuked the northern forces for their treachery against God's covenant with David and their _____ towards the LORD himself. Abijah's southern forces won the battle and enjoyed continued regional dominance, “because they relied upon the LORD God of their fathers.” (2 Ch. 13:18)

Asa

2. (1 Ki. 15:9-24) As an act of mercy, and to honor his covenant with David, God left a _____ in Jerusalem: the righteous Asa. He was a good king who walked in the ways of his father David.
 - (a) Asa removed the _____ out of the land.
 - (b) He removed his father's idols and dismissed his mother Maachah from her royal position because she persisted in _____.
 - (c) Though he failed to remove the high places (idolatrous, hill-top shrines) Asa's heart was _____ before the LORD.
 - (d) (2 Ch. 14:6-8) Asa enjoyed peace in his kingdom for ____ years, during which he fortified his cities' defenses.

3. (2 Ch. 14:9-15) During Asa's reign, Zerah the _____ invaded Judah with one million men and 300 chariots. Asa cried unto the LORD, and the LORD gave victory unto Asa and the men of Judah.
4. (2 Ch. 15:1-18) The prophet Azariah, the son of Oded, brought an encouraging word to Asa and all Judah which inspired greater loyalty to the LORD and ushered in a period of spiritual revival. This led to even more immigration of _____ Hebrews from the north. (cf 15:9)
5. (2 Ch. 15:9-15) During this time of revival, Asa and the people of Judah renewed the _____ God made with Israel.
6. (2 Ch. 16:1) Years later, a new king in the north, Baasha, made war with Asa. Baasha fortified _____, a city a few miles north of Israel, to blockade the southern flow of people to Judah.
 - (a) (2 Ch. 16:2-6) Asa sought for military help by taking gold and silver out of the _____ treasury and paying Ben-hadad of Syria to attack Baasha on his northern border. Distracted by this new development, Baasha abandoned his campaign at Ramah.
 - (b) (2 Ch. 16:7-10) Hanani the prophet rebuked Asa for trusting in Syria instead of the LORD. Asa became infuriated with the prophet and cast him into prison. Asa's remaining years would be characterized by a lack of _____. He died of diseased feet.

Application

7. Asa the king was a great and godly king whose latter years were disappointing. His great sin was trusting in _____ instead of God.

*Psalm 20:7 Some trust in chariots, and some in horses:
But we will remember the name of the LORD our God.*

Notes: _____

Answer Key: Key word(s): lamp • 1. a) Ahijah; b) faithlessness • 2. lamp; a) sodomites; b) idolatry; c) perfect; d) 10 • 3. Ethiopian • 4. faithful • 5. covenant • 6. Ramah; a) temple; b) faith • 7. man

How to use this worksheet for personal Bible study: (1) Read the Bible passage given in the **Story Elements** section. (2) Read through the worksheet and try to fill in the blanks without looking at the **Answer Key**. (3) Check your answers with the key and make the necessary corrections. Keep in mind that some answers are a matter of opinion, and often more than one answer is correct. (4) Write down your own thoughts, applications, and questions for further study in the **Notes** section.